



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 373

February Session, 2006

Substitute Senate Bill No. 186

Senate, April 5, 2006

The Committee on Government Administration and Elections reported through SEN. DEFRONZO of the 6th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

***AN ACT CONCERNING MEMBERS OF THE STATE ELECTIONS
ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION, THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION
COMMISSION AND THE CITIZEN'S ETHICS ADVISORY BOARD.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 9-7a of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
3 *passage*):

4 (a) There is established a State Elections Enforcement Commission
5 to consist of five members, not more than two of whom shall be
6 members of the same political party and at least one of whom shall not
7 be affiliated with any political party. Of the members first appointed
8 hereunder, one shall be appointed by the minority leader of the House
9 of Representatives and shall hold office for a term of one year from
10 July 1, 1974; one shall be appointed by the minority leader of the
11 Senate and shall hold office for a term of three years from said July
12 first; one shall be appointed by the speaker of the House of

13 Representatives and shall hold office for a term of one year from said
14 July first; one shall be appointed by the president pro tempore of the
15 Senate and shall hold office for a term of three years from said July
16 first, and one shall be appointed by the Governor, provided that such
17 member shall not be affiliated with any political party, and shall hold
18 office for a term of five years from said July first. Thereafter, members
19 shall be appointed for terms of five years from July first in the year of
20 their appointment and shall be appointed by the person holding the
21 same office as was held by the person making the original
22 appointment, provided any person chosen to fill a vacancy shall be
23 appointed only for the unexpired term of the member whom he shall
24 succeed. All appointments shall be made with the consent of the state
25 Senate and House of Representatives, provided the initial appointees
26 may serve without confirmation from July 1, 1974, subject to approval
27 at the next regular session of the General Assembly. No person who
28 has served within the previous three years as a public official, other
29 than a member of the State Elections Enforcement Commission, or who
30 has served within the previous three years as a political party officer,
31 shall be appointed to membership on the commission. For purposes of
32 this subsection the term "public official" means an individual who
33 holds or has held a state, district or municipal office as defined in
34 section 9-372 but shall not include a justice of the peace or a notary
35 public and the term "political party officer" means an officer or
36 member of a national committee of a political party, state central or
37 town committee, or any person employed by any such committee for
38 compensation. The commission shall elect one of its members to serve
39 as chairperson and another member to serve as vice-chairperson. Each
40 member of the commission shall be compensated at the rate of [fifty]
41 two hundred dollars per day for any day on which he participates in a
42 regular commission meeting or hearing, and shall be paid by the state
43 for his reasonable expenses, including necessary stenographic and
44 clerical help.

45 Sec. 2. Subsection (f) of section 1-80 of the 2006 supplement to the
46 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
47 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

48 (f) Members of the board shall be compensated at the rate of [fifty]
49 two hundred dollars per day for each day they attend a meeting or
50 hearing and shall receive reimbursement for their necessary expenses
51 incurred in the discharge of their official duties.

52 Sec. 3. Subsection (b) of section 1-205 of the general statutes is
53 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
54 *passage*):

55 (b) Each member shall receive [fifty] two hundred dollars per day
56 for each day such member is present at a commission hearing or
57 meeting, and shall be entitled to reimbursement for actual and
58 necessary expenses incurred in connection therewith, in accordance
59 with the provisions of section 4-1.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	9-7a(a)
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	1-80(f)
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	1-205(b)

GAE *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 07 \$	FY 08 \$
Freedom of Inf. Com.	GF - Cost	32,400	32,400
Office of State Ethics	GF - Cost	25,200	25,200
Elect. Enforcement Com.	GF - Cost	9,000	9,000

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill increases the per diem rate from \$50 to \$200 for the commissioners of the Freedom of Information Commission (FOIC), the Office of State Ethics (OSE), and the State Elections Enforcement Commission (SEEC). These commissioners are compensated for each monthly meeting, subcommittee meeting, as well as hearings for contested cases. The FOIC has 5 commissioners that meet twice a month. The OSE has 9 commissioners and the SEEC has 5 commissioners that each meet once a month. These funds are included in sHB 5007 "An Act Making Adjustments to the Budget for the Biennium ending June 30, 2007" (as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee).

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

OLR Bill Analysis
sSB 186***AN ACT CONCERNING MEMBERS OF THE STATE ELECTIONS
ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION, THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION
COMMISSION AND THE CITIZEN'S ETHICS ADVISORY BOARD.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill increases, from \$50 to \$200, the per diem payable to Freedom of Information Commission, State Elections Enforcement Commission, and Office of State Ethics Citizens' Advisory Board members for attending a commission or board meeting or hearing. Members continue to be reimbursed for necessary or reasonable expenses associated with attendance.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

COMMITTEE ACTION

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 18 Nay 0 (03/17/2006)